

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ZGONC, No. C 07-06359 CW

v.

LIFE INSURANCE OF NO. AMERICA,

MINUTE ORDER AND  
CASE MANAGEMENT  
ORDER

Clerk: Sheilah Cahill Reporter: Diane Skillman  
Plaintiff Attorney: Terrence Coleman  
Defendant Attorney: Dennis J. Rhodes

A case management conference was held on: 3/25/08. The Case Management Statement and Proposed Order filed by the parties is hereby adopted by the Court as the Case Management Order for the case, except as may be noted below. The Court's standard Order for Pretrial Preparation also applies.

The case is hereby referred to the following ADR process:

Non-binding Arbitration: ☐ Early Neutral Evaluation: ☐

Court-connected mediation: ☐ Private mediation: ☒

Magistrate Judge settlement conference: ☐

ADR session to be held by: (06/25/08)

(or as soon thereafter as is convenient to the mediator's schedule)

Deadline to add additional parties or claims: (06/25/08)

Date of next case management conference: (N/A)

Completion of Fact Discovery: (08/15/08)

Disclosure of identities and reports of expert witnesses: (07/11/08)

Completion of Expert Discovery: (08/15/08)

All case-dispositive motions to be heard at 2:00 P.M.

on or before: (09/18/08)

Final Pretrial Conference at 2:00 P.M. on: (N/A)

A day Trial will begin at 8:30 A.M. on: (N/A)

Additional Matters: Copy of Court's Order for Pretrial Preparation given to attys in court. Consent/declination form given to attorneys to completed and returned by 4/4/08. This is an ERISA case to be decided on cross-motions for judgment under Rule 52. Plaintiff to file opening brief 6 weeks prior to 9/18/08; defendant's opposition/cross motion (contained within a single brief) due two weeks thereafter; plaintiff's reply/opposition to cross-mo. (contained within a single brief) due one week later and any surreply by defendant due one week thereafter. Counsel to address appropriate standard of review or extra evidence that needs to come in within their briefs.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

*Claudia Wilken*

Dated: 3/28/08

CLAUDIA WILKEN  
United States District Judge

Copies to: Chambers; ADR

NOTICE

**Case Management Conferences and Pretrial Conferences** are conducted on **Tuesdays** at 2:00 p.m. **Criminal Law and Motion** calendar is conducted on **Wednesdays** at 2:00 p.m. for defendants in custody and 2:30 p.m. for defendants not in custody. **Civil Law and Motion** calendar is conducted on **Thursdays** at 2:00 p.m. Order of call is determined by the Court. Counsel need not reserve a hearing date for civil motions; however, counsel are advised to check the legal newspapers or the Court's website at [www.cand.uscourts.gov](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov) for unavailable dates.

Motions for Summary Judgment: All issues shall be contained within one motion of 25 pages or less, made on 35 days notice. (See Civil L.R. 7-2). Separate statements of undisputed facts in support of or in opposition to motions for summary judgment will not be considered by the Court. (See Civil Local Rule 56-2(a)). The motion and opposition should include a statement of facts supported by citations to the declarations filed with respect to the motion. Evidentiary and procedural objections shall be contained within the motion, opposition or reply; separate motions to strike will not be considered by the Court. Any cross-motion shall be contained within the opposition to any motion for summary judgment, shall contain 25 pages or less, and shall be filed 21 days before the hearing. The reply to a motion may contain up to 15 pages, shall include the opposition to any cross-motion, and shall be filed 14 days before the hearing. (See Civil Local Rule 7-3). The Court may, *sua sponte* or pursuant to a motion under Civil L.R. 6-3, reschedule the hearing so as to give a moving party time to file a reply to any cross-motion.

All discovery motions are referred to a Magistrate Judge to be heard and considered at the convenience of his/her calendar. All such matters shall be noticed by the moving party for hearing on the assigned Magistrate Judge's regular law and motion calendar, or pursuant to that Judge's procedures.

Pursuant to General Order 45, § VI.G, "In all cases subject to ECF, in addition to filing papers electronically, the parties are required to lodge for chambers **no later than noon on the business day following the day that the papers are filed electronically**, one paper copy of each document that is filed electronically."

(rev. 10/10/07)

ORDER FOR PRETRIAL PREPARATION

PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

1. Not less than 30 days prior to the pretrial conference, counsel shall **exchange** (but not file or lodge) the papers described in Civil L.R. 16-10(b)(7),(8),(9), and (10), and their motions in limine.

2. At least 20 days before the final pretrial conference, lead counsel who will try the case shall meet and confer with respect to:

(a) Preparation and content of the joint pretrial conference statement;

(b) Resolution of any differences between the parties regarding the preparation and content of the joint pretrial conference statement and the preparation and exchange of pretrial materials to be served and lodged pursuant to this Order for Pretrial Preparation. To the extent such differences are not resolved, parties will present the issues in the pretrial conference statement so that the judge may rule on the matter during the pretrial conference; and

(c) Settlement of the action.

3. Not less than 10 days prior to the pretrial conference, counsel shall submit the following.

(a) Pretrial Conference Statement. The parties shall file a joint pretrial conference statement containing the following information:

(1) The Action.

(A) Substance of the Action. A brief description of the substance of claims and defenses which remain to be decided.

(B) Relief Prayed. A detailed statement of all the relief claimed, particularly itemizing all elements of damages claimed.

(2) The Factual Basis of the Action.

1 (A) Undisputed Facts. A plain and concise statement  
2 of all relevant facts not reasonably disputed.

3 (B) Disputed Factual Issues. A plain and concise  
4 statement of all disputed factual issues which remain to be  
5 decided.

6 (C) Agreed Statement. A statement assessing whether  
7 all or part of the action may be presented upon an agreed  
8 statement of facts.

9 (D) Stipulations. A statement of stipulations  
10 requested or proposed for pretrial or trial purposes.

11 (3) Disputed Legal Issues. Without extended legal  
12 argument, a concise statement of each disputed point of law  
13 concerning liability or relief.

14 (4) Further Discovery or Motions. A statement of all  
15 remaining discovery or motions.

16 (5) Trial Alternatives and Options.

17 (A) Settlement Discussion. A statement summarizing  
18 the status of settlement negotiations and indicating  
19 whether further negotiations are likely to be productive.

20 (B) Consent to Trial Before a Magistrate Judge. A  
21 statement whether the parties consent to a court or jury  
22 trial before a magistrate judge, with appeal directly to  
23 the Ninth Circuit.

24 (C) Bifurcation, Separate Trial of Issues. A  
25 statement of whether bifurcation or a separate trial of  
26 specific issues is feasible and desired.

27 (6) Miscellaneous. Any other subjects relevant to  
28 the trial of the action, or material to its just, speedy  
and inexpensive determination.

(b) Exhibit List and Objections. The exhibit list  
shall list each proposed exhibit by its number (see Civil L.R.  
30-2(b)), description, and sponsoring witness, followed by  
blanks to accommodate the date on which it is marked for  
identification and the date on which it is admitted into

1 evidence. **No party shall be permitted to offer any exhibit in**  
2 **its case-in-chief that is not disclosed in its exhibit list**  
3 **without leave of the Court for good cause shown.** Parties shall  
4 also deliver a set of premarked exhibits to the Courtroom  
5 Deputy. The exhibit markers shall each contain the name and  
6 number of the case, the number of the exhibit, and blanks to  
7 accommodate the date admitted and the Deputy Clerk's initials.  
8 (Appropriate sample forms are available on the Court's website  
9 at [www.cand.uscourts.gov](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov)). Any objections to exhibits which  
10 remain after the pretrial meeting shall be indicated in the  
11 pretrial statement.

12 (c) Witness List. In addition to the requirements of  
13 FR CivP 26(a)(3)(A), a brief statement describing the substance  
14 of the testimony to be given by each witness who may be called  
15 at trial. **No party shall be permitted to call any witness in**  
16 **its case-in-chief that is not disclosed in its pretrial**  
17 **statement without leave of Court for good cause shown.**

18 (d) Use of Discovery Responses. In addition to the  
19 requirements of FR CivP 26(a)(3)(B), a designation of any  
20 excerpts from interrogatory answers or from responses for  
21 admissions intended to be offered at trial. Counsel shall  
22 indicate any objections to use of these materials and that  
23 counsel have conferred respecting such objections.

24 (e) Trial briefs. Briefs on all significant disputed  
25 issues of law, including foreseeable procedural and evidentiary  
26 issues, which remain after the pretrial meeting.

27 (f) Motions in Limine. Any motions in limine that  
28 could not be settled at the pretrial meeting shall be filed with

1 the pretrial statement. All motions in limine shall be  
2 contained within one document, limited to 25 pages pursuant to  
3 Civil L.R. 7-2(b), with each motion listed as a subheading.  
4 Opposition to the motions in limine shall be contained within  
5 one document, limited to 25 pages, with corresponding  
6 subheadings, and filed five (5) days thereafter.

7 (g) Joint Proposed Voir Dire. The attached voir dire  
8 questionnaire will be given to the venire members, and copies of  
9 the responses will be made available to counsel at the beginning  
10 of voir dire. Counsel may submit a set of additional requested  
11 voir dire, to be posed by the Court, to which they have agreed  
12 at the pretrial meeting. Any voir dire questions on which  
13 counsel cannot agree shall be submitted separately. Counsel may  
14 be allowed brief follow-up voir dire after the Court's  
15 questioning.

16 (h) Joint Proposed Jury Instructions. As applicable,  
17 jury instructions §1.1A, §1.1C, §1.2 through §1.17, §1.19, §2.1  
18 through §2.13, §3.1 through §3.3 from the Manual of Model Civil  
19 Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit (2007 Edition) will be  
20 given absent objection. Counsel shall jointly submit one set of  
21 additional proposed jury instructions, to which they have agreed  
22 at the pretrial meeting. The instructions shall be ordered in  
23 a logical sequence, together with a table of contents. Any  
24 instruction on which counsel cannot agree shall be marked as  
25 "disputed," and shall be included within the jointly submitted  
26 instructions and accompanying table of contents, in the place  
27 where the party proposing the instruction believes it should be  
28 given. Argument and authority for and against each disputed

1 instruction shall be included as part of the joint submission,  
2 on separate sheets directly following the disputed instruction.

3 Whenever possible, counsel shall deliver to the  
4 Courtroom Deputy a copy of their joint proposed jury  
5 instructions on a computer disk in WordPerfect or ASCII format.  
6 The disk label should include the name of the parties, the case  
7 number and a description of the document.

8 (i) Proposed Verdict Forms, Joint or Separate.

9 (j) Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law  
10 (Court Trial only). Whenever possible, counsel shall deliver to  
11 the Courtroom Deputy a copy of their proposed findings of fact  
12 and conclusions of law on a computer disk in WordPerfect or  
13 ASCII format. The disk label should include the name of the  
14 parties, the case number and a description of the document.

15 JURY SELECTION

16 The Jury Commissioner will summon 20 to 25 prospective  
17 jurors. The Courtroom Deputy will select their names at random  
18 and seat them in the courtroom in the order in which their names  
19 are called.

20 Voir dire will be asked of sufficient venire persons so  
21 that eight (or more for a lengthy trial) will remain after all  
22 peremptory challenges and an anticipated number of hardship  
23 dismissals and cause challenges have been made.

24 The Court will then take cause challenges, and discuss  
25 hardship claims from the individual jurors, outside the presence  
26 of the venire. The Court will inform the attorneys which  
27 hardship claims and cause challenges will be granted, but will  
28 not announce those dismissals until the process is completed.

1 Each side may then list in writing up to three peremptory  
2 challenges. The attorneys will review each other's lists and  
3 then submit them to the Courtroom Deputy.

4 Then, from the list of jurors in numerical order, the Court  
5 will strike the persons with meritorious hardships, those  
6 excused for cause, and those challenged peremptorily, and call  
7 the first eight people in numerical sequence remaining. Those  
8 people will be the jury.

9 All jurors remaining at the close of the case will  
10 deliberate. There are no alternates.

11 SANCTIONS

12 Failure to comply with this Order is cause for sanctions  
13 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(f).

14 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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**United States District Court**  
For the Northern District of California

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Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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CLAUDIA WILKEN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

JUROR QUESTIONNAIRE

Please fill out this form as completely as possible and print clearly. Since we want to make copies for the attorneys and the Court, do not write on the back of any page. If you need more room, continue at the bottom of the page. Thank you for your cooperation.

1. Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Your age: \_\_\_\_\_

3. The city where you live: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Your place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you rent or own your own home? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Your marital status: (circle one)

single married separated divorced widowed live with partner

7. What is your occupation, and how long have you worked in it? (If you are retired, please describe your main occupation when you were working).

8. Who is (or was) your employer?

9. How long have you worked for this employer? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Please list the occupations of any adults with whom you live.

11. If you have children, please list their ages and sex and, if they are employed, please give their occupations.

1 12. Please describe your educational background:

2 Highest grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_

3 College and/or vocational schools you have attended:

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_

8 Major areas of study: \_\_\_\_\_

9 13. Have you ever served on a jury before? \_\_\_\_\_ How many  
10 times? \_\_\_\_\_

11 If yes: State/County Court \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Court \_\_\_\_\_

12 When? \_\_\_\_\_

13 Was it a civil or criminal case? \_\_\_\_\_

14 Did the jury(ies) reach a verdict? \_\_\_\_\_

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18 (rev. 10/10/07)

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